

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of ~~preventing hypocalcemia, wherein a~~
administering vitamin D derivative wherein the vitamin D derivative selected from ~~1 α -~~
~~hydroxyvitamin D₃ and~~ consisting of 1, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is transvaginally
administered to a domestic mammal cow, and the vitamin D derivative administered
transvaginally is absorbed in the vaginal cavity of the cow to increase a calcium
concentration in the body of the cow.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~preventing hypocalcemia~~ administering
a vitamin D derivative as claimed in claim 1, including administering an intravaginal insert
containing the vitamin D derivative to a vaginal cavity of the cow.

4-15. (Canceled).